

COMMITTEE ON OPEN GOVERNMENT

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SHOSHANAH BEWLAY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Whom it May Concern

FROM: Shoshanah Bewlay
Executive Director, Committee on Open Government

RE: *Chapter 1 of the Laws of 2022 “Notwithstanding” Elements of Public Officers Law Article 7 “The Open Meetings Law” through the Expiration or Termination of the State Disaster Emergency*

DATE: January 18, 2022 (Updated March 17, 2022)

On January 14, 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul signed into Law Chapter 1 of the Laws of 2022 amending Chapter 417 of the Laws of 2021 to authorize any public body (as that term is defined by [§ 102\(2\) of the Open Meetings Law](#)) “to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorize such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed.”

Chapter 1 takes effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed upon the expiration or termination of the state disaster emergency declared pursuant to [Governor Hochul’s Executive Order 11](#) or any extension or modification thereof. **As of the date of this memo, Executive Order 11.4 has extended Executive Order 11 through April 15, 2022.**